

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
COLLABORATIVE ACTION PLAN
(ARKANSAS COMMUNITY)**

Focus Area 1 (Proposed Activities for the Next Two Years: January 2016 – December 2017)

FOCUS AREA 1: HEALTHY AIR, WATER, AND LAND

Goals:

1. Support healthy air, water, and land for Arkansas by connecting environmental justice needs with existing resources within EPA and beyond.
2. Work with State agencies to implement rules and programs to protect natural resources and build healthier communities.

	COMMUNITY-IDENTIFIED KEY ACTIVITIES	RESOURCES	COMMENTS / STATUS
<i>Proposed Activities for the Next Two Years</i>	<p>We will work in partnership to ensure implementation and compliance of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Clean Power Plan to reduce carbon pollution from power plants and fight climate change 	6MM, ADEQ	<p>1. 12/2015: EPA conducted a Clean Power Plan Community Training on November 4-5 in Port Arthur, Texas. The training focused on what communities need to know about State and Federal Plans, the Clean Energy Incentive Program, the Importance of State Engagement, the Stakeholder Perspective on the Clean Power Plan, Organizing and Developing Effective Public Comments, including an overview of EJ Screen, and other community resources. EJ stakeholders from Arkansas and other Region 6 states helped plan and conduct the training. (R6)</p> <p>01/2016: 6MM will support ADEQ in its outreach through their CPP stakeholder workgroup and directly to environmental justice representatives. (R6)</p>

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	2. The Regional Haze Rule to improve visibility, particularly in national parks and recreation areas	6MM, ADEQ	<p>03/2016: The Supreme Court's stay of the Clean Power Plan has relieved Arkansas from all obligations of the Clean Power Plan while it is in force. ADEQ will reassess the need for any activities at the conclusion of litigation. (ADEQ)</p> <p>07/2016: No significant R6 support for CPP at this time. (R6)</p> <p>10/2016: The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit heard oral arguments on the Clean Power Plan on September 27, 2016. A decision is expected in late 2016 or early 2017. (R6)</p> <p>2. 01/2016: On April 8, 2015, EPA proposed a Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) to reduce emissions at six facilities subject to the Regional Haze Rule's Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) requirements and one facility under the rule's reasonable progress requirements. The action reduces sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emissions by more than 40,000 tons per year. The Region expects to finalize the plan by August 2016. (R6)</p> <p>03/2016: Arkansas has made significant progress on improving visibility in Class I areas such as the Buffalo River National Park and Caney Creek Wilderness areas. In fact, the state is on track to meet the improvements outlined in the uniform rate of progress for the first planning period, which ends in 2018. This progress is a benefit to all communities in the state of Arkansas. (ADEQ)</p>
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	<p>3. The Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) to reduce power plant emissions that contribute to ground-level ozone and fine-particle pollution in Arkansas and other states</p>	<p>6MM, ADEQ</p>	<p>07/2016: Region 6 expects to finalize the FIP for Arkansas by August 2016. (R6)</p> <p>10/2016: Region 6 issued the Final Federal Implementation Plan for Regional Haze in Arkansas in August 2016. (R6)</p> <p>01/2017: Staff from 6MM provided information on the Federal Implementation Plan for Regional Haze in Arkansas during the quarterly Arkansas EJ Update Call with community stakeholders on November 15, 2016. The discussion included background on regional haze and specific information on requirements and benefits of the Arkansas plan. (R6)</p> <p>3. 03/2016: On November 16, 2015, the EPA proposed an update to the CSAPR for the 2008 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) by issuing the proposed CSAPR Update Rule. Starting in 2017, this proposal would reduce summertime nitrogen oxides (NOx) emissions from power plants in 28 states in the eastern U.S. On December 18, 2015, EPA extended the public comment period for the CSAPR Update Rule to 60 days. The public comment period closed on February 1, 2016. (R6)</p> <p>03/2016: With regard to the CSAPR, current trends indicate improvement in air quality across the state including for ground-level ozone and fine-particle pollution. This is a benefit not only to this state, but also to surrounding states affected by emissions in Arkansas. (ADEQ)</p>
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	<p>4. The new ozone standard of 70 parts of ozone per billion parts of air to improve public health protection in general and for at-risk groups such as children, older adults, and people with lung diseases</p> <p>5. The Clean Water Rule to better protect streams and wetlands from pollution and degradation</p>	<p>6MM, ADEQ</p> <p>6WQ, ADEQ</p>	<p>01/2017: EPA Finalized the CSAPR update for ozone in September 2016. Requiring reductions in NOx emissions from utilities in 28 states including Arkansas. (R6)</p> <p>4. 03/2016: With regard to the new ozone standard, current trends indicate that Arkansas is projected to meet the requirement of the new ozone standard of 70 parts per billion. This projected success will help protect the state's natural resources and contribute to the well-being of all Arkansas communities. (ADEQ)</p> <p>5. 01/2016: On October 9, 2015, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit stayed the Clean Water Rule nationwide pending further action of the court. EPA and the Department of the Army are fully complying with the stay. The court acknowledges that clarification of the Clean Water Act is needed and that "agencies conscientiously endeavored, within their technical expertise and experience, and based on reliable peer-reviewed science, to promulgate new standards to protect water quality that conform to the Supreme Court's guidance." (R6)</p> <p>03/2016: With regard to the Clean Water Rule, ongoing litigation has resulted in a stay of the implementation of this rule. However, Arkansas's definition of "waters of the state" is sufficiently broad to provide strong protections for our environment and to all designated uses. (ADEQ)</p>
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	<p>6. Superfund Programs (including Brownfields) to assess, clean up, and reuse contaminated land and to respond to environmental emergencies, oil spills, and natural disasters</p>	<p>6SF, ADEQ</p>	<p>10/2016: The legal stay to the Clean Water Rule continues, and so does the EPA and the Department of the Army's full compliance with the stay. (R6)</p> <p>05/2017: On February 28, 2017, President Donald Trump issued an Executive Order directing the Administrator of the EPA and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works to review the Clean Water Rule and publish for notice and comment a proposed rule rescinding or revising the rule, as appropriate and consistent with law. More information about the rule, including the Executive Order and Notice of Intention (currently pre-publication version) can be found at: www.epa.gov/cleanwaterrule. (R6)</p> <p>6. 01/2016: Where appropriate, 6SF will continue to assess, clean up, and promote the reuse of contaminated land and will respond to environmental emergencies, oil spills, and natural disasters. 6SF will continue to support the safety and well-being of Arkansas communities through its various programs that respond to land contamination. Examples of recent activities include the cleanup of the North Little Rock Auto Salvage Site, the five-year review of the Arkwood, Inc. Superfund site in Omaha, AR, and the five-year review for the Old Midland Products Superfund site in Ola, AR. (R6)</p> <p>03/2016: ADEQ will continue to protect, enhance and restore the environment for all Arkansans. ADEQ accomplishes this through the Superfund program by providing support to EPA</p>
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			<p>for all CERCLA Activities. This includes the assessment of abandoned sites. Writing or reviewing five-year reviews (such as the Mountain Pine Pressure Treater and Arkwood five-year reviews). ADEQ assists EPA in ensuring all Superfund sites meet Federal and State remedial criteria. ADEQ has utilized the Remedial Action Trust Fund to perform remediation at the Utility Services, Inc. site and cap repair at the Fulton Class 3C Landfill. Both of these sites are on the State Priority List and were potentially releasing contamination into the environment. (ADEQ)</p> <p>03/2016: ADEQ has performed corrective action inspections at facilities such as Central Maloney, Inc. This facility has been monitoring and remediating contaminated surface water and groundwater. These types of activities and monitoring will continue. (ADEQ)</p> <p>07/2016: ADEQ has utilized the Landfill Post-Closure Trust Fund to assess, remediate and provide corrective action to address pollution problems at closed solid waste landfill facilities that did not include provisions for maintenance and monitoring (facilities permitted prior to 1991). In 2016 and 2017, ADEQ will take actions at the former C & L Landfill, the Nabors Landfill, and Damco, a waste tire disposal facility. (ADEQ)</p> <p>07/2016: EPA's brownfields program continues to work with communities on property assessment. One of the recent</p>
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		<p>assessments has been working with PHOEBE (People Helping Others Excel By Example) in Hot Springs on the John Lee Webb house. PHOEBE plans to turn the John Lee Webb house into a community resource center and an African-American Museum. EPA Region 6 is assisting in the redevelopment plans by conducting the Phase 2 assessment. In addition, through the National Competition, an assessment grant is being awarded to West Arkansas Planning and Development District to assess properties. (R6)</p> <p>10/2016: Where appropriate, 6SF will continue to assess, clean up, and promote the reuse of contaminated land and will respond to environmental emergencies, oil spills, and natural disasters. 6SF will continue to support the safety and well-being of Arkansas communities through its various programs that respond to land contamination. Examples of recent activities include the Pre-CERCLIS Screening and recommendation for a Preliminary Assessment for the Morse Automotive Corporation in Arkadelphia, AR, the five-year review of the Midland Products site in Polk, AR, and the five-year review for the Ouachita-Nevada site in Ouachita, AR. (R6)</p> <p>01/2017: All Superfund removal activities at the North Little Rock Salvage Yard site, North Little Rock, AR, were completed the week of December 12, 2016. The responsible party (W.R. Grace) completed excavation of all asbestos-contaminated soils, as well as backfill operations on December 15, 2016. All indoor asbestos-dust abatement work and post-abatement</p>
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			<p>sampling was completed on the same day. The final volume of contaminated soil excavated was approximately 44,000 tons. All contractors, including EPA's contractor, demobilized from the site on Saturday, December 17, 2016. (R6)</p> <p>05/2017: Where appropriate, 6SF will continue to assess, clean up, and promote the reuse of contaminated land and will respond to environmental emergencies, oil spills, and natural disasters. 6SF will continue to support the safety and well-being of Arkansas communities through its various programs that respond to land contamination. Examples of recent activities include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On March 7, 2017, EPA and ADEQ conducted a site inspection at the Mid-South Wood Products site in Mena, AR, as part of the site's Five-Year Review. • On March 14, 2017, the Superfund Site Assessment staff accompanied ADEQ personnel to conduct sampling at the Kennametal, Incorporated site in Pineville, AR. The site manufactured industrial grade metal cutting tools. Site sampling will determine if the site will require further assessment. (R6) <p>05/2017: EPA's Brownfields program continues to work with communities and ADEQ on property assessment. Recent activities include a February visioning session in Huntsville, AR. West Arkansas Planning and Development District has hired their contractor to begin assessment utilizing their assessment grant which was awarded in October 2016. Kansas State</p>
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	<p>7. Federal environmental regulations through multimedia inspections, investigations, and where appropriate, enforcement actions to achieve clean air, water, and land</p>	<p>6EN, ADEQ</p>	<p>University (KSU, Brownfields Technical Assistance) and EPA continues working with Hot Springs on planning a visioning session for the old Majestic Hotel site. EPA is also working with ADEQ and KSU on planning upcoming workshops. (R6)</p> <p>7. 10/2016: In FY2016, EPA Region 6 issued 24 enforcement actions in the state of Arkansas, resulting in assessed penalties of more than \$419,000, and required close to \$590,000 to be spent in complying actions. Over 40 percent of these enforcement conclusions were located in vulnerable communities. (R6)</p> <p>01/2017: In FY2017, first quarter, EPA Region 6 issued a Consent Agreement Final Order to Sloan Valve to resolve RCRA violations at its Augusta, Arkansas brass foundry. Sloan Valve will pay an administrative penalty of \$630,000; enter into an agreement with the State of Arkansas for the remediation of releases at its foundry; adhere to and certify to compliance with all protective measures required by its solid waste disposal permit; cease the use of non-conforming containers for the accumulation and storage of hazardous waste; and refrain from all land disposal of wastes that fail to meet the applicable treatment standards. (R6)</p> <p>05/2017: As of midyear (March 31, 2017), EPA has issued 3 Administrative Compliance Orders, and 3 Final Penalty Orders in Arkansas, resulting in \$840,000 in penalties. Approximately</p>
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			33 percent of these enforcement conclusions were located in vulnerable communities. (R6)

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Focus Area 2 (Proposed Activities for the Next Two Years: January 2016 – December 2017)

FOCUS AREA 2: LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS

Goals:

1. Support local emergency planning and preparedness by connecting environmental justice needs with existing resources within EPA and beyond.
2. Minimize harm to people and the environment by working to prevent, prepare for, and respond to accidents and emergencies within Arkansas communities.

	COMMUNITY-IDENTIFIED KEY ACTIVITIES	RESOURCES	COMMENTS / STATUS
<i>Proposed Activities for the Next Two Years</i>	<p>We will work in partnership to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support activities that foster dialogue among members of the public, industry, and government that relate to local planning and preparedness 	ALL	<p>1. 03/2016: ADEQ has created a debris management plan for local jurisdictions to use during major incidents. This plan is currently under review; final publication targeted in 2016. (ADEQ)</p> <p>03/2016: ADEQ is working with local, state and federal partners to update the state homeland security strategy to strengthen preparedness, response and recovery plans in AR. (ADEQ)</p> <p>03/2016: ADEQ encourages Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) in enforcement cases which allow environmental improvement activities to be performed in areas most impacted by environmental contamination. For</p>

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	<p>2. Build the capacity of Arkansas communities to understand and participate in local emergency planning and response activities</p>	<p>6SF, ADEM</p>	<p>example, ExxonMobil is providing SEP funds to allow several community watershed and education projects to progress in the impacted area of Lake Conway and Mayflower, AR. (ADEQ)</p> <p>2. 01/2016: 6SF will work closely with Arkansas LEPCs to provide technical assistance and training opportunities. (R6)</p> <p>07/2016: 6SF will provide four Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) workshops in Arkansas on August 9, 11, 12, and 16. These workshops focus on requirements of Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act for industry & LEPCs, emergency preparedness, and proposed regulations under Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and the Clean Air Risk Management Plan programs. The Department of Homeland Security and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration are participating in the workshops this year, as part of the Chemical Safety Executive Order. (R6)</p> <p>05/2017: 6SF will work closely with Arkansas LEPCs to provide technical assistance and training opportunities. On April 10, 2017, EPA Superfund Emergency Management staff made a presentation at the Pesticides Inspectors Training in Little Rock, AR. The topic presented was Superfund cleanups at pesticide sites. (R6)</p>
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	<p>3. Provide information on tools and resources such as EJ Screen and CodeRED to help identify and prepare vulnerable communities</p>	<p>OEJTIA, ADEM</p>	<p>3. 12/2015: OEJTIA will facilitate information and training on EJ Screen and other resources for community members and stakeholders. (R6)</p> <p>12/2015: ADEM will provide information on the CodeRED system and the types of notices sent to residents. (ADEM)</p> <p>07/2016: OEJTIA provided information via the Arkansas EJ Mail List on three webinars hosted by EPA in June 2016 to engage with EJ stakeholders on questions about the new data and design of EJ Screen as well as a discussion of how EJ Screen is being used. In addition, staff from EPA Headquarters joined the quarterly Arkansas EJ Update Call on May 24, 2016, to provide information and answer questions about the new version of EJ Screen. (R6)</p> <p>05/2017: On April 6, 2017, OEJTIA hosted a 3-hour, in-person training session on EJSCREEN for R6 staff. The training was conducted by Mr. Matthew Tejada from the Office of Environmental Justice at EPA Headquarters. The training consisted of an overview of EJSCREEN; discussions on the integration of EJSCREEN, NEPA and Enforcement; and case studies on sites for Superfund, NPDES, RCRA and Air. A total of 46 staff attended the training, which will help staff better integrate EJSCREEN into their work and support healthier communities. (R6)</p>
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Focus Area 3 (Proposed Activities for the Next Two Years: January 2016 – December 2017)

FOCUS AREA 3: ASSISTANCE WITH GRASSROOTS CAPACITY BUILDING

Goals:

1. Support grassroots capacity building by connecting environmental justice needs with existing resources within EPA and beyond.
2. Increase the ability of community members to have meaningful involvement in protecting their environment.
3. Enhance communication between residents and government agencies to improve the environment, health, and safety of communities in Arkansas.

	COMMUNITY-IDENTIFIED KEY ACTIVITIES	RESOURCES	COMMENTS / STATUS
<i>Proposed Activities for the Next Two Years</i>	<p>We will work in partnership to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support community capacity building through information and trainings 	ALL	<p>1. 01/2016: The EPA Region 6 Brownfields program provides a weekly newsletter, webinars, and coffee chats to communities that provide information on capacity building as well as sustainability, brownfields, and revitalization. (R6)</p> <p>03/2016: ADEQ continues to participate in scheduled emergency preparedness exercises to develop plans and relationships with governmental, private and public entities. (ADEQ)</p>

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			<p>03/2016: ADEQ provides information, guidance and response support to local entities to assist with environmental situations to limit the impact. (ADEQ)</p> <p>03/2016: ADEQ offers much training throughout each year. The training focuses on compliance assistance, reporting, and monitoring. ADEQ has in the past and will continue to respond to citizen requests to provide presentations and discussions to communities throughout the state on specific issues. (ADEQ)</p> <p>10/2016: On July 26-27, 2016, 6WQ staff attended and spoke at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville's Arkansas Water Resources Center Annual Water Conference, which creates a forum for water resource stakeholders of all kinds to come together to discuss current issues in Arkansas and regionally. The focus of this year's conference was "Nutrients, Water Quality and Harmful Algal Blooms." Some of the discussions focused on the best ways to monitor for harmful algal blooms and cyanotoxins, how lake managers have learned to respond to blooms, and cyanotoxin regulations and the risks to public health. (R6)</p> <p>10/2016: 6SF staff hosted the Region 6 Brownfields Conference August 30 – September 1, 2016. There were 122 people registered to attend the workshop. (R6)</p>
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	2. Explore programs and partnerships that can provide technical support to communities	ALL	<p>10/2016: OEJTIA staff participated in the inaugural Arkansas Environmental Policy Summit in Little Rock, AR, on September 9, 2016. The purpose of the summit was to bring together professionals and the public to discuss current environmental issues in Arkansas. OEJTIA Director Arturo Blanco participated as a guest speaker on environmental justice. Other sessions focused on renewable energy and the Clean Power Plan, water quality, climate change, and effective community organizing and advocacy. Staff from ADEQ, the Arkansas Public Service Commission, and Arkansas Natural Resources Commission also participated in the summit. The summit was organized by the Arkansas Public Policy Panel in partnership with the Sierra Club Arkansas Chapter and Audubon Arkansas and held at Heifer International Headquarters. (R6)</p> <p>2. 12/2015: EPA will work with academic, business, and community entities to support efforts to address issues wherever possible. Some potential programs include Technical Assistance Services for Communities, College/Underserved Community Partnership Program, etc. (R6)</p> <p>07/2016: OEJTIA staff conducted several meetings for CUPP implementation in Arkansas on April 18-20, 2016. Staff joined members from the EPA Region 4 CUPP team for meetings with representatives from the University of Arkansas, University of Arkansas at Monticello and cities of</p>
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	<p>3. Provide grant programs and technical assistance that support efforts to build healthy and sustainable communities</p>	ALL	<p>Crossett, Huntsville, Pineville (Mo.) and Siloam Springs. CUPP provides a creative approach to partnering and delivering free technical assistance to small, underserved communities from local colleges and universities. (R6)</p> <p>05/2017: Members of the CUPP team established a partnership between the City of Huntsville, AR and the University of Arkansas Fay Jones School of Architecture. A group of 12 senior architecture and interior design students created 3D models, rendered photos of different views, and created floor plans for a county museum and community building project. Through CUPP, the students gained practical experience while earning course credit, and the city received technical assistance that it would not have been able to afford otherwise. (R6)</p> <p>3. 01/2016: EPA provides grant writing training to all potential applicants. The training can assist communities with applying for various programs to include, but not limited to, brownfields, environmental justice, urban waters, etc. (R6)</p> <p>01/2016: Program staff will share training opportunities with OEJTIA to help ensure information reaches Arkansas EJ stakeholders. (R6)</p> <p>01/2016: 6WQ provided the Arkansas Department of Health, \$1,127,004 for their Public Water Supply</p>
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			<p>Supervision program that is a major component of the state's drinking water program. (R6)</p> <p>03/2016: ADEQ continues to provide technical assistance and outreach to businesses, community groups and others on a range of topics including permit assistance, brownfield redevelopment, recycling needs and watershed protection. (ADEQ)</p> <p>03/2016: ADEQ offers a GO RED program that provides grant monies to enhance sustainable practices. (ADEQ)</p> <p>10/2016: 6WQ awarded \$3,057,000 in fiscal year 2016 funds to the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission to support the state's nonpoint source pollution prevention program. These funds are awarded under the authority of Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. The funding will support the development and implementation of watershed based plans which result in improved water quality in impaired waters. (R6)</p> <p>10/2016: 6WQ provided the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC) their Drinking Water State Revolving Fund allotment of \$12,719,000. Arkansas Department of Health received \$3,488,570 of it for administering their state's drinking water program. The ANRC will retain the remaining \$9,230,430 for continuing to administer their</p>
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			<p>state's drinking water system construction loan program. (R6)</p> <p>10/2016: 6WQ provided the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission their Clean Water State Revolving Fund allotment of \$14,688,000 for administering their state's wastewater construction loan program. (R6)</p> <p>10/2016: The brownfields program awarded two grants in Arkansas totaling \$1.22 million to help assess and clean up contaminated sites. The Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund and Cleanup grants go to communities that are underserved and economically disadvantaged, including neighborhoods where environmental cleanup and new jobs are most needed. The Western Arkansas Planning and Redevelopment District received \$400,000 to assess potentially contaminated sites in area communities. Pulaski County received \$820,000 toward its revolving loan fund for cleanup activities. (R6)</p> <p>01/2017: In November 2016, the Air Monitoring Team completed a technical systems audit of the ambient air monitoring program with ADEQ. This audit ensures that ADEQ meets quality assurance standards for collection of ambient air monitoring data. Resolution of findings and observations is continuing. (R6)</p>
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	<p>4. Create an ongoing network to continue the positive progression that was started at the EJ Training Workshop</p>	<p>OEJTIA</p> <p>01/2017: In November 2016, representatives from Region 6, ADEQ and the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC) met via conference call to discuss the FY 2016 Multipurpose Grant for development of the Buffalo River Watershed Based Plan. ADEQ received the grant and gave a Sub-award Grant to ANRC to develop the watershed based plan in two years. Region 6, ADEQ, and ANRC plan to schedule quarterly conference calls to discuss progress and ensure the project remains on track. (R6)</p> <p>05/2017: 6WQ made Public Water System Supervision (PWSS) awards in the amount of \$541,124 and an Underground Injection Control (UIC) award to the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) in the amount of \$60,384. (R6)</p> <p>4. 12/2015: OEJTIA will host the EPA Region 6 Quarterly EJ Update Call to share information, engage in meaningful conversation with EJ stakeholders in all five Region 6 states, and to work collaboratively to address environmental challenges. In addition, regular monthly/quarterly calls will be held with Arkansas EJ stakeholders to discuss issues specific to their state. (R6)</p> <p>07/2016: OEJTIA conducted a conference call on the EJ 2020 Action Agenda with Arkansas EJ stakeholders on June 21, 2016. EJ 2020 is EPA's strategic plan on environmental justice for the years 2016 – 2020. OEJTIA provided an</p>
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			<p>overview of EJ 2020's goals and priority areas, responded to questions, and encouraged call participants to submit inputs on the plan. EPA accepted public comments on the plan until July 28, 2016. (R6)</p> <p>07/2016: OEJTIA uses the Arkansas EJ Mail List to email Arkansas stakeholders information on EPA activities related to environmental justice, grants, and training, as well as relevant information from other government agencies and non-profit organizations. (R6)</p> <p>01/2017: In CY2016, OEJTIA conducted quarterly Arkansas EJ Update Calls with community stakeholders on January 7, May 24, and November 15. The calls included discussions on the Arkansas EJ Collaborative Action Plan, EJ Screen data updates, Arkansas EJ Network, EJ Academy, Federal Implementation Plan for Regional Haze in Arkansas, and other national and regional items of interest. During the third quarter, stakeholders met in person at the five-state EJ Summit held on August 9-10, 2016 in Dallas, TX. (R6)</p> <p>05/2017: OEJTIA conducted quarterly Arkansas EJ Update Calls with community stakeholders on February 14 and May 16, 2017. The calls included discussions on the Community Participatory Port Resilience Project in Memphis, TN, FY2017 EJ Small Grants program, National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC), Nonprofit Energy Efficiency Act, and the Arkansas EJ Collaborative Action Plan. (R6)</p>
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	<p>5. Actively explore ways to expand the conversation and engagement between state agencies and communities</p> <p>6. Provide more opportunities for grassroots organizations to come together to discuss issues, exchange strategies, and leverage resources</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>OEJTIA</p>	<p>5. 12/2015: Staff will continue to provide information and tools to reach community members. For example, the new ADEQ Android App allows Arkansans to report environmental hazards in real time directly from their smart phone. (R6, ADEQ)</p> <p>6. 12/2015: EPA Region 6 plans to conduct an EJ Summit in late Summer/Fall 2016 to build on the efforts from the EJ Training Workshops held previously in each of its five states. (R6)</p> <p>03/2016: ADEQ and the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission will hold a watershed conference in October 2016 for watershed organizations and others interested in learning about improving watersheds in their communities and across the state. (ADEQ)</p> <p>10/2016: Region 6 hosted a five-state EJ Summit on August 9-10, 2016, in Dallas, TX. The summit was the culmination of the state EJ Training Workshops and included sessions on the development and implementation of the EJ Collaborative Action Plans for Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. The summit also highlighted examples of successful multi-stakeholder collaborations to address EJ issues in communities across Region 6, as well as recent federal government initiatives that can support local community efforts to address EJ issues. (R6)</p>
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Focus Area 4 (Proposed Activities for the Next Two Years: January 2016 – December 2017)

FOCUS AREA 4: MAKING A VISIBLE DIFFERENCE – CROSSETT, ARKANSAS

Goals:

1. Support Making A Visible Difference in Communities efforts in Crossett, AR, by connecting environmental justice needs with existing resources within EPA and beyond.
2. Coordinate across EPA programs and with federal, State, and local partners to better support community needs and to help them access a wide range of resources and assistance.

	COMMUNITY-IDENTIFIED KEY ACTIVITIES	RESOURCES	COMMENTS / STATUS
<i>Proposed Activities for the Next Two Years</i>	<p>We will work in partnership to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Build on previous work in Crossett, AR, by researching additional support to address community concerns under the Making a Visible Difference effort 	ALL	<p>1. 12/2015: Region 6 began working with the EPA Office of Research and Development to collect data and information to determine if a cumulative risk assessment can be conducted for Crossett. The assessment will require collecting a significant amount of data from numerous Region 6 programs as well as State environmental and health agencies. (R6)</p> <p>03/2016: ADEQ has conducted several multi-media inspections in Crossett, AR to address community concerns. These findings were summarized and shared with the community in a public meeting (2014-2015). (ADEQ)</p>

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			<p>07/2016: OEJTIA staff conducted several meetings for CUPP implementation in Arkansas on April 18-20, 2016. Staff joined members from the EPA Region 4 CUPP team for meetings with representatives from the University of Arkansas, University of Arkansas at Monticello and several cities including Crossett. CUPP provides a creative approach to partnering and delivering free technical assistance to small, underserved communities from local colleges and universities. (R6)</p> <p>07/2016: Staff from 6EN, 6MM, 6WQ, and OEJTIA conducted a call with Earthjustice on June 29, 2016, regarding Crossett, AR. Earthjustice is a nonprofit environmental law organization that has been contacted by residents of Crossett regarding their environmental and public health concerns. Questions from Earthjustice included the NEIC inspection conducted in February 2015, the wastewater treatment system and permit, possible air and soil testing, and Making a Visible Difference in Communities (MVDC) activities. A previous call was conducted on May 25, 2016, with staff from Earthjustice, the EPA Headquarters Office of Environmental Justice, and OEJTIA. (R6)</p> <p>10/2016: Region 6 organized a meeting between representatives for Crossett Concerned Citizens for Environmental Justice (CCCEJ) and Georgia-Pacific LLC (GP) to discuss community concerns about environmental odors and hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) emissions in Crossett, AR, on August</p>
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			<p>16, 2016. Staff from 6EN, 6MM, 6WQ, and OEJTIA participated in the meeting. The main discussion items raised by CCCEJ involved facility compliance following the NEIC inspection conducted in February 2015, permitting and operation of the facility wastewater treatment system, and the current voluntary air monitoring project for H2S. GP provided information on its responsiveness to the NEIC inspection, improvements made to the wastewater treatment process, and activities related to the voluntary air monitoring. OEJTIA drafted a meeting summary with remaining concerns and next steps. The summary was shared with ADEQ, ADH, CCCEJ and GP. (R6)</p> <p>10/2016: On September 26-28, 2016, inspectors from Region 6 Air Enforcement and contractors from Energy & Resource Consulting Group conducted real-time monitoring of H2S in Crossett, AR. The purpose of the monitoring was to determine the locations of the likely sources of H2S at the facility and along its wastewater treatment system in order to design a longer-term monitoring network. (R6)</p> <p>5/2017: On January 13, 2017, EPA commenced a 24-week monitoring study at Georgia Pacific and in the community of Crossett to evaluate the sources and offsite impacts of hydrogen sulfide. EPA staff are harvesting samples on a biweekly basis and sharing the sampling results from the onsite monitors with Georgia-Pacific. Georgia-Pacific is conducting parallel sampling with collocated monitors and is</p>
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	<p>2. Address the findings of the National Enforcement Investigation Center reports for inspections conducted at GP facilities in February 2015</p>	<p>6EN</p>	<p>sharing its data with EPA. The monitoring period will end on June 30, 2017, after which EPA will write a summary report to share with the public. (R6)</p> <p>05/2017: 6WQ met with the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) on March 30, 2017 regarding the revised preliminary draft permit to review for Georgia Pacific - Crossett Paper Operation from ADEQ. The permit has been reviewed by the Water Division, the Compliance, Assurance and Enforcement Division-Water Branch, and Regional Counsel. EPA will discuss major concerns and possible remedies to resolve issues. (R6)</p> <p>2. 12/2015: 6EN has met with ADEQ, GP, and Crossett Concerned Citizens for Environmental Justice (CCCEJ). On December 2, 2015, 6EN and OEJTIA attended a community meeting held by CCCEJ to review the inspection findings and provide residents an opportunity to ask questions. (R6)</p> <p>10/2016: Region 6 entered into an administrative settlement with GP on June 23, 2016. The Consent Agreement and Final Order required the payment of a \$10,000 penalty for CWA violations that were identified in the NEIC inspection report. These findings include: Failure to conduct monitoring according to approved test procedures; Failure to conduct sampling as specified in NPDES Permit No. AR0001210; and Failure to follow Best Management Practices.</p>
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			<p>10/2016: On August 25, 2016, Region 6 issued a Consent Agreement and Final order (CAFO) under its authority pursuant to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) to GP. The CAFO was issued to address violations of RCRA hazardous waste management requirements including: Failure to meet the accumulation time limit for a universal waste handler (40 CFR §273.15(a)) and failure to meet uniform hazardous waste manifest requirements (40 C.F.R. § 262). The CAFO requires GP to implement standard operating procedures to ensure proper hazardous waste determinations and universal waste management including storage, proper manifest preparation and documentation. The CAFO also imposes a penalty of \$11,500. GP must respond to Region 6 within 90 days of the effective date of the order. (R6)</p> <p>10/2016: On September 26, 2016, Region 6 issued an Administrative Compliance Order on Consent (“ACO”) to Georgia-Pacific LLC (“GP”) to address violations of the NESHAP requirements of the Clean Air Act at GP’s chemical manufacturing facility in Crossett, Arkansas. Specifically, EPA alleged that GP did not properly conduct performance tests of its thermal oxidizer and complex boiler as required by 40 CFR Part 63, Subpart FFFF. Per the terms of the ACO, GP is required to retest the thermal oxidizer and complex boiler or demonstrate why the equipment is no longer subject to the performance test requirements of Subpart FFFF. (R6)</p>
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			<p>01/2017: On October 26, 2016, inspectors from Region 6 Air Enforcement accompanied Region 5 staff to Crossett, AR to monitor for hydrogen sulfide using a Geospatial Monitoring of Air Pollutants (GMAP) vehicle. The Region 5 GMAP vehicle has analyzers and meteorological equipment that can detect H₂S emissions in real time. The purpose of the monitoring was to determine the locations of the likely sources of H₂S at the facility and along its wastewater treatment system in order to design a longer-term monitoring network. (R6)</p> <p>01/2017: On January 9, 2017, Region 6 Air Enforcement issued Administrative Orders on Consent to two Georgia-Pacific facilities (Paper Operations Plant and Chemical Plant) located in Crossett, AR, to address violations of the CAA Risk Management Program regulations. (R6)</p>
	3. Complete a one-year review of the Crossett Action Plan with federal, state, and local partners to evaluate actions and progress to date	OEJTIA	<p>3. 12/2015: EPA Region 6 conducted a review of the action plan and is now using the feedback received to continue working with its partners to address community concerns. (R6)</p> <p>03/2016: ADEQ conducted a review of the Crossett Action Plan in 2015 and coordinated responses with EPA Region VI in order to address community concerns. (ADEQ)</p>
	4. Finalize the draft health consultation for Crossett, AR, started in August 2014, and meet with community	ADH, ATSDR	<p>4. 01/2016: The draft health consultation is still in the final review process with ATSDR. (ADH)</p>

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	<p>representatives to review the document and answer questions</p>		<p>07/2016: The community health consultation was completed by ADH and ATSDR on June 6, 2016, and can be found online at the web address provided below. ADH will continue to address questions or public health concerns in the community, as needed or requested. http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/HAC/pha/GeorgiaPacificCorporation/Georgia_Pacific_Corporation_Crossett_AR_HC_06-06-2016_508.pdf (ADH)</p>
	<p>5. Assess lessons learned, integrate best practices, and build better tools that may help other communities in the future.</p>	ALL	<p>01/2017: A draft of the health consultation evaluating H2S concentrations in ambient air is in the review process (as of December 2016). Once finalized, it will be made available to the public. ADH will continue to address questions or public health concerns in the community, as needed or requested. (ADH)</p> <p>5. 03/2016: ADEQ continually evaluates their processes such as rulemaking, as well as public meetings/hearings ensuring a wide range of participation from the communities is occurring. ADEQ has an agency enforcement policy which ensures equitable treatment with respect to enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. (ADEQ)</p>

ABBREVIATIONS AND NAMES:

ADEM = Arkansas Department of Emergency Management

ADEQ = Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality

ADH = Arkansas Department of Health

ATSDR = Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry

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6EN = Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division

6MM = Multimedia Division (Formerly 6PD - Multimedia Planning and Permitting Division)

6SF = Superfund Division

6WQ = Water Division (Formerly - Water Quality Protection Division)

OEJTIA = Office of Environmental Justice, Tribal, and International Affairs (Formerly - OEJTA)